

REMARKS

This patent application presently includes Claims 1-7, all of which stand rejected. The claims are amended to define the applicant's invention more clearly, and all rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected as anticipated by Microsoft Excel 2000 pivot tables, and Claim 2 was rejected as obvious over Microsoft Excel pivot tables in view of Shalit et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,714,971. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Neither the Excel pivot tables, nor Shalit, nor any combination thereof renders any of these claims unpatentable.

On September 27, 2004, the undersigned held a personal interview with examiner B. Pesin in the presence of Supervisor K. Kincaid. At that time, the present amendment was proposed and arguments presented below in detail were offered in favor of patentability. At the conclusion of the interview, it was agreed that all of the claims, if amended as proposed, would overcome the references of record.

In all of the claims, "tree style views" have been amended to "tree views."

At the interview, the undersigned explained that the term "tree view" has a special meaning in the art. This was supported with a description from a Microsoft website which contains information from the book "*Window User Experience - Official Guidelines for User Interface Developers and Designers.*", Microsoft, 1999. Enclosed are two pages from the current webpage, the URL for which is identified at the bottom of the pages. The section for this information is entitled "Tree View Controls." Comparing the tree views in Figs. 6 of the application with Fig. 8.25 on the website, it is clear that the standard Microsoft definition of "tree view" was intended in the present application. Accordingly, all of the claims have been amended in that regard.

Comparing the Microsoft Excel pivot tables to the tree views in accordance with the standard definition and the description of the present patent application, it will be appreciated that they do not fit the definition of "tree view." Moreover, by using tree views, the present invention

gains the functionality of tree views built into the operating system in order to realize the invention and can avoid having to program them especially for this use.

Neither Microsoft Excel pivot tables, nor Shalit teach or even suggest the use of tree views. Accordingly, all claims are now believed to be allowable over either of these references or their combination.

Applicant's attorney has made every effort to place this patent application in condition for allowance. It is therefore earnestly requested that this application, as a whole, receive favorable reconsideration and that all of the claims be allowed as presently constituted. Should there remain any unanswered questions, the examiner is requested to call the applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

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A *list view control* is a special extended-selection list box that displays a collection of items, each consisting of an icon and a label. List view controls can display content in four different views.

List View Controls

View	Description
Large Icon	Each item appears as a full-sized icon with a label below it. The user can drag the icons to any location within the view.
Small Icon	Each item appears as a small icon with its label to the right. The user can drag the icons to any location within the view.
List	Each item appears as a small icon with its label to the right. The icons appear in one or more sorted columns.
Details	Each item appears as a line in a multi-column format with the leftmost column including the icon and its label. The subsequent columns contain information from the application displaying the list view control.

The control supports options for aligning, selecting, and sorting icons and for editing icon labels. It also supports drag-and-drop interaction.

Use this control where an icon representation of objects is appropriate, or to represent items with multiple columns of information. List view controls are generally a better alternative than owner-drawn list boxes and are more compatible with interface and accessibility utilities.

If you use the control to display items represented by icons, provide shortcut menus for the icons displayed in the views. This provides a consistent paradigm for how the user interacts with icons elsewhere in the Windows interface. Also include a shortcut menu and separate controls to enable the user to change the view if you support different control viewing options.

Selection and navigation in this control work similarly to selection and navigation in folder windows. For example, the user clicks an icon to select it. After selecting the icon, the user can use extended selection techniques with the mouse or keyboard, including region selection for contiguous or disjoint selections. Arrow keys, PAGE UP, PAGE DOWN, HOME, END, and text keys (time-out-based matching) support keyboard navigation and selection. Pressing CTRL+PLUS (on the numeric keypad) adjusts the width of all columns to fit their contents.

As an option, the standard control also supports the display of graphics that can be used to represent state information. For example, you can use this functionality to include check boxes next to items in a list.

Tree View Controls

A *tree view control* is a special list box control that displays a set of objects as an indented outline based on their logical hierarchical relationship. The control includes buttons that expand and collapse the outline, as shown in Figure 8.25. You can use a tree view control to display the relationship between a set of containers or other hierarchical elements.

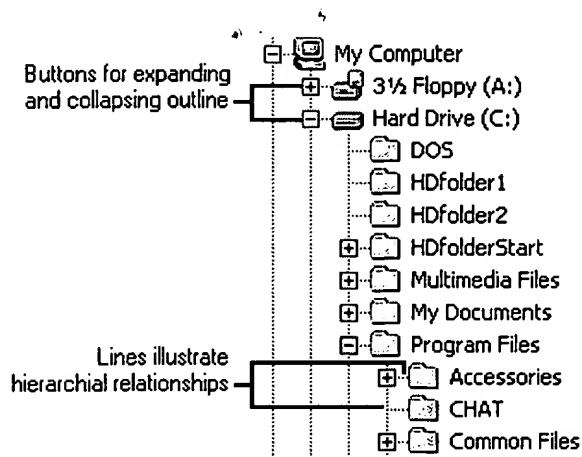


Figure 8.25 A tree view control

You can optionally include icons with the text label of each item in the tree. Different icons can be displayed when the user expands or collapses the item in the tree. You can also include a graphic, such as a check box, that can be used to reflect state information about the item. The control also supports optional display of lines to illustrate the hierarchical relationship of the items in the list and optional display of buttons for expanding and collapsing the outline.

Arrow keys provide keyboard support for navigating through the control. The user presses the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW keys to move between items and the LEFT ARROW and RIGHT ARROW keys to move along a particular branch of the outline. Pressing the RIGHT ARROW key can also expand the outline at a branch if it is not currently displayed. Pressing LEFT ARROW collapses a branch if the focus is on an item with an expanded branch; otherwise it moves the focus to the current item's parent. Pressing * on the numeric keypad expands the current branch and all its sub-branches. Text keys can also be used to navigate to and select items in the list, using the matching technique based on timing.

When you use this control in a dialog box, if you use the ENTER key or use double-clicking to carry out the default command for an item in the list, make sure that the default command button in your dialog box matches. For example, if the user must double-click an entry in the outline to display the item's properties, then define a **Properties** button to be the default command button in the dialog box when the tree view control has the input focus.

Text Fields

Windows includes a number of controls that facilitate displaying, entering, or editing a text value. Some of these controls combine a basic text-entry field with other types of controls.

When you create a text field for input of a restricted set of possible values — for example, a field where only numbers are appropriate — validate user input immediately, either by ignoring inappropriate characters or by providing feedback such as a balloon tip. Also, play the system error audio tone any time the user enters an invalid value.

More Information

For more information about validating input, see [Chapter 9, "Secondary Windows."](#)

Label Appearance

Text fields do not include labels as a part of the control. However, you can add a label using a static text field, as shown in Figure 8.26. A label helps the user identify the purpose of a text field and provides a way to indicate when the field is disabled. For multiple-word labels, use sentence-style capitalization ending with a colon.

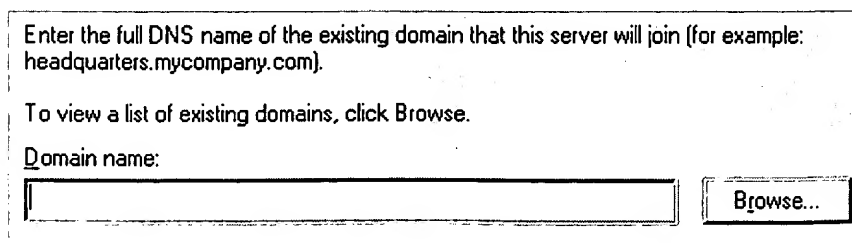


Figure 8.26 Text box label appearance